Downsizing health staff

1892. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he wants the Central Government to exclude health sector from Government order issued in 2001, for downsizing staff;

(b) whether it is also a fact that about 7000 posts of doctors, nurses, technicians and other staff are lying vacant in Central Government-run hospitals across the country but the Ministry can neither fill these vacancies nor create any new posts as per the 2001 order; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government propose to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The matter has been taken up for exempting the technical posts under the health sector from the purview of DOPT orders issued in 2001 according to which direct recruitment in civilian posts have to be restricted to 1/3rd of the vacancies in a year subject to a further ceiling that it does not exceed 1 % of the total sanctioned strength of a Department.

According to the information compiled in 2003 for the purpose of implementation of these orders, there were more than 4500 vacancies in different categories of technical and non-technical posts in the Department of Health including the subordinate and autonomous organizations.

NGOs granted Assistance in H.'p.

1893. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ. Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the list of NGOs granted assistance in the State of Himachal Pradesh during the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, scheme-wise and the criteria for grant;

(b) the list o* pending proposals; and

(c) by when the grants are likely to be released for pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI). (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.